Through a Lens Darkly
Black photographers and the emergence of a people

Monday, February 16, at 10pm on KQED 9
In February, KQED proudly celebrates the diversity of our community with special Black History Month programming on KQED 9 and KQED Plus (+), as well as on KQED Life and KQED World.

View or download the complete schedule of Black History Month programs. [kqed.org/heritage](http://kqed.org/heritage)

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**Independent Lens**

*Through a Lens Darkly*

**Monday, February 16**

10pm on KQED 9

For the last 170 years, pioneering African Americans photographers have recorded the dramas and aspirations of generations. This film traces the spiritual transformation from slavery to economic mobility and social stability and examines how these photographers helped their communities reclaim self-worth and humanity.

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**American Masters**

*Cab Calloway Sketches*

**Sunday, February 8**

7pm on KQED 9

As a singer, dancer and bandleader, Cab Calloway charmed audiences around the world with his boundless energy, bravado and elegant showmanship. He was also an ambassador for his race, leading one of the most popular African American big bands during the Harlem renaissance and jazz and swing eras.

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**Antiques Roadshow**

*Celebrating Black Americana*

**Monday, February 9**

9pm on KQED 9

Highlights include an 1821 U.S. citizenship certificate for George Barker, a free man of color; an African American beauty book written by Madam C.J. Walker, the first female self-made millionaire in America; and a trip to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, MO.

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**Jesse Owens:**

*American Experience*

**Tuesday, February 17**

8pm on KQED Plus

This film tells the story of the 22-year-old son of a sharecropper who triumphed over adversity to become a hero and world champion. It’s also about the elusive, fleeting quality of fame and the way Americans idolize athletes when they suit our purpose and forget them when they don’t.

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**Rise of the Black Pharaohs**

**Tuesday, February 17**

9pm on KQED Plus

In the heart of Sudan, archaeologists are finding indisputable evidence of an advanced dark-skinned African society with powerful armies, vast reach and spiritually-driven imperial aspirations to rival the Egyptians.

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**Finding Your Roots**

*We Come from People*

**Tuesday, February 17**

10pm on KQED Plus

Tracing the roots of three guests — hip-hop artist Nas, award-winning actress Angela Bassett and presidential adviser Valerie Jarrett — into the heart of slavery reveals that there is no singular narrative and challenges preconceptions of an era that profoundly shaped our nation’s sense of itself.
Honor the richness and diversity of the greater San Francisco Bay Area by celebrating Black History Month with KQED and Union Bank.

**Eason Ransom** is best known for his years playing for the San Francisco 49ers. During his last few years in the NFL, Eason found himself caught up in a fast-paced lifestyle of drugs and alcohol. Years of drug abuse ultimately proved to be too much, and he found himself imprisoned for nearly 10 years. After his release from prison Eason successfully completed a rehabilitation program and went on to form the nonprofit organization Pros and Cons for Kids, helping young people learn coping, self-esteem and life skills. Eason has worked with inner-city youth in San Francisco for the past 14 years. He is currently senior director of the Bayview Hunter’s Point YMCA’s Academic Re-entry and Empowerment program— the city’s first truancy abatement program.

The **Rev. Dr. Joseph Bryant Jr.** has been the visionary leader of the Calvary Hill Community Church of San Francisco since 1996. Since then, Dr. Bryant has initiated numerous programs in education, health, financial literacy, workforce development, and at-risk services and counseling that have impacted the congregation, the community and the world. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Bryant co-founded the Village Van Project, a transportation service, in partnership with the San Francisco Mayor’s Office, for underprivileged children and families. He is also a highly sought advisor and consultant in the sports industry, providing guidance for life beyond the playing field for players and organizations.

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**American Masters August Wilson: the Ground on Which I Stand**

Unprecedented access to Wilson's theatrical archives, rarely seen interviews and new dramatic readings bring to life his seminal 10-play cycle chronicling each decade of the 20th-century African American experience, including the Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winner *Fences* and Pulitzer Prize–winning *The Piano Lesson.*

**Friday, February 20 9pm on KQED 9**

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**In Performance at the White House The Motown Sound**

President and Mrs. Obama host a celebration of Black History Month and the legacy of Motown, the distinctive soul-infused pop music sound, style and presentation that was born in Detroit and embodied by the Motown Records label. The evening includes performances by Jamie Foxx, Natasha Bedingfield, Ledisi, John Legend, Amber Riley and Smokey Robinson.

**Sunday, February 22 7pm on KQED 9**

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**Independent Lens American Denial**

The story of Gunnar Myrdal’s 1944 investigation of Jim Crow racism is used as a springboard to explore the power of unconscious biases and how the ideals of liberty, equality and justice still affect notions of race and class today.

**Monday, February 23 10pm on KQED 9**

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Photos: (top to bottom) August Wilson, David Cooper, 2004; Natasha Bedingfield, Jordin Sparks and Ledisi perform, Official White House photo by Chuck Kennedy; Untitled, Harlem, New York, 1947, courtesy Gordon Parks.
**KQED in the Community**

Photos: (top to bottom) “Crossroads” by Hank Willis Thomas, courtesy Hank Willis Thomas; unidentified woman, probably a member of the Urias McGill family, three-quarter length portrait, facing front, holding daguerreotype case, photo by Augustus Washington, courtesy LOC, Library of Congress, #LC-USZC4-3937; Malcolm X, Herman Hiller, World Telegram staff photographer [Public domain] via Wikimedia Commons.

**KQED Black History Month Celebrations**

KQED, community leaders, and local musicians and artists come together for three events centered around the new film *Through a Lens Darkly*, the first documentary to explore the role of photography in shaping the identity, aspirations and social emergence of African Americans from slavery to the present.

**Thursday, February 12 6:30-9pm**

Counterpulse
1310 Mission St.
San Francisco

Celebrate the accomplishments made by KQED’s Local Heroes and watch a screening of the film *Through a Lens Darkly*.

blackhistroymonthsf.eventbrite.com

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**Friday, February 13 7-10pm**

Impact Hub Oakland
2323 Broadway
Oakland

Local artists and musicians share pieces about love. Watch a preview screening of *Through a Lens Darkly*.

lovesupremenight.eventbrite.com

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**Saturday, February 14 2-5pm**

Beebe Memorial Cathedral
3900 Telegraph Ave.
Oakland

Join KQED for a *Through a Lens Darkly* Digital Diaspora Family Reunion Roadshow. Come share family portraits and tell your own stories.

digitaldiaspora.eventbrite.com

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**KQED Public Radio**

KQED Public Radio is available on frequencies 88.5 FM in San Francisco, 89.3 FM in Sacramento (KQEI), 88.3 FM in Santa Rosa and 88.1 FM in Martinez. It is also available on XFINITY digital cable 960 and live online at kqed.org.

**Harlem in Revolt, Part 2**

Wednesday, February 4, 8pm

The year 1963 was a time of social upheaval. It was the summer Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his “I Have a Dream” speech. It was also a time of rising influence for a young black leader named Malcolm X. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Radio’s Austin Clarke managed to get an interview with Malcolm X. More than 50 years later, it stands as an important record.

**State of the Re:Union**

**Re:Defining Black History**

Saturday, February 7, 2pm

State of the Re:Union zeroes in some alternate narratives, ones edited out of the mainstream imagining of black history, deconstructing the popular perception of certain celebrated moments.